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November 7, 2019

Ms. Sheryl Sandberg
Chief Operating Officer
Facebook
1 Hacker Way
Menlo Park, CA 94025

Dear Ms. Sandberg:

As Members of the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus (CAPAC), we write to request a briefing from you regarding Facebook's efforts to combat interference and disinformation on its platform in the upcoming 2020 Decennial Census, and what steps are being taken to promote the census. CAPAC is comprised of 74 Members of Congress who represent the voices and interests of the Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) community throughout our nation. Ensuring all AAPIs are counted in the 2020 Decennial Census promotes our communities' advancement and equality in American life.

The decennial census is a once-in-a-decade task mandated by the U.S. Constitution that requires an accurate count of every person living in the United States, regardless of their citizenship status. Data from the census is used to reapportion congressional seats and create formulas that direct over \$800 billion in federal dollars to states and local governments. An accurate count is essential to ensuring equitable distribution of federal dollars to support critical social safety net programs and to fund new roads, hospitals, schools, and other public sector investments. During the census enumeration, however, certain hard-to-count (HTC) populations are more likely than others to be missed.

Specifically, communities of color, people with limited English proficiency, low-income individuals, and young children are often undercounted in the census. As such, we are deeply concerned that the AAPI community, which is already vulnerable to being undercounted, will be susceptible to misinformation and dissuasion tactics by nefarious actors who wish to undermine our democracy.


According to a 2018 report by the Nielsen Company, 59% of surveyed Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders who are 18 years or older reported using Facebook. This data point illustrates the massive impact of Facebook and the information that is spread on its platform. In this regard, we believe Facebook can be an invaluable partner in ensuring an accurate census enumeration. Having publicly stated your intent to put "people, policies, and technology in place to protect against census interference" and

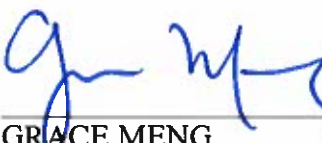
push back on misinformation campaigns, we look forward to engaging with you and your team to ensure that AAPIs and other vulnerable communities are not targeted by malicious actors on your platform.

We appreciate Facebook's efforts to learn from the 2016 presidential election and to prevent similar interference from occurring during the 2020 Decennial Census. We believe Facebook will play a critical role in maintaining the integrity of the 2020 Decennial Census operation by swiftly addressing any interference or disinformation campaigns. We hope to hear from you about these efforts and how Facebook will protect its users, notably the AAPI community.


Thank you for your attention to this critical matter. We look forward to hearing from you.


Sincerely,

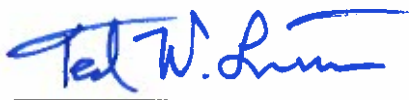

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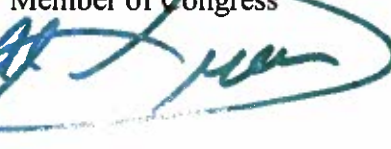

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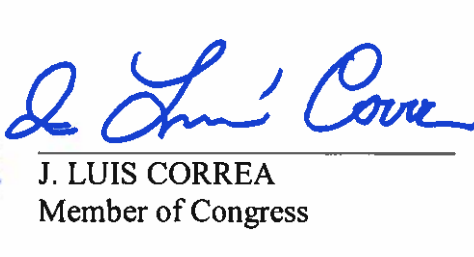
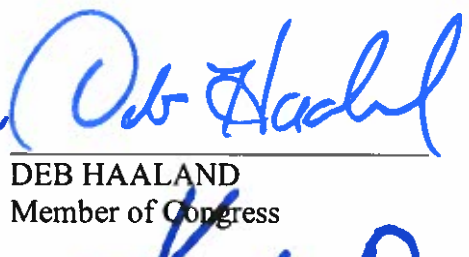

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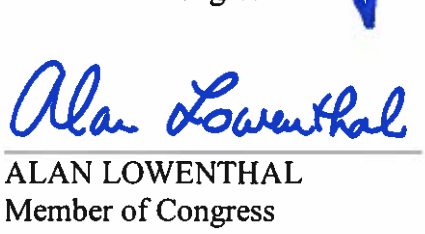
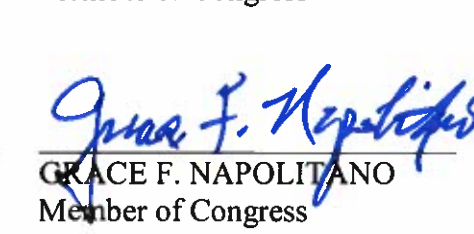


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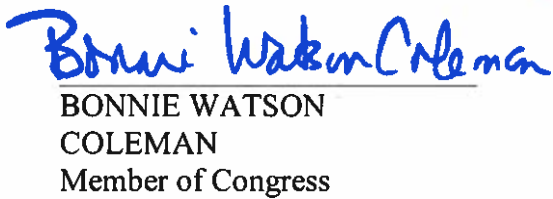

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